

report stating ghost guns contributed to more than 100 violent crimes, including 24 murders, 8 attempted homicides, and dozens of armed robberies and assaults. In the first six months of the year, the Department confiscated 863 ghost guns, nearly 300% over the previous year. Enough is enough. These firearms are being used to kill members of our community, including our law enforcement officers. By passing AB 97, the Legislature can get a clear picture of how many ghost guns law enforcement recovers annually to inform future policy.

- 2) **Justice Data Accountability.** Last year, the Legislature enacted and Governor Newsom signed AB 2418 (Kalra), Chapter 787, Statutes of 2022, which created the Justice Data Accountability and Transparency Act (J-DATA). J-DATA requires DOJ, beginning in 2027, to collect specific data on arrests and prosecutions from all state and local offices that prosecute misdemeanors and felonies, including district attorney offices, city attorney offices, and the DOJ. This bill seeks to gather information necessary to determine if courts are sufficiently imposing penalties on misdemeanor ghost gun possession cases. The Governor's proposed 2023-24 budget proposes \$2.8 million GF in 2023-24 and \$1.2 million ongoing for DOJ to continue regulating the sale, transfer, possession, and manufacture of unserialized weapons.
- 3) **Related Legislation.** AB 327 (Jones-Sawyer) requires DOJ to complete the transition of all California's crime statistics reporting to align with federal reporting requirements. AB 327 is pending in this committee.
- 4) **Prior Legislation.**
 - a) AB 857 (Cooper), Chapter 60, Statutes of 2016, requires a person to apply to and obtain from the DOJ a unique serial number or other mark of identification prior to manufacturing or assembling a firearm.
 - b) AB 1688 (Fong), of the 2021-2022 Legislative Session, would have removed the requirement that a firearm be microstamped with an array of characters in order to be listed on the DOJ roster of "not unsafe" handguns approved for sale. At the author's request, the Assembly Public Safety Committee did not hear AB 1688.

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